

Subgrantee: Nevada System of Higher Education

Name of School: University of Nevada, Reno

Name of Contact: Melisa Choroszy, AVP Enrollment

Address: FSS 217 MS 0120

Reno, NV 89557
Telephone Number: (775) 682-5907

Email Address: mchoroszy@unr.edu

## University of Nevada, Reno College Ambassador GEAR UP Abstract 2012-2013

The University of Nevada, Reno supports the efforts of GEAR UP to address the lack of postsecondary matriculation in Nevada through the creation of a strengthened K-16 pipeline. The institution has created a project team tasked with meeting measurable objectives related to GEAR UP goals. Service delivery will be focused on Traner and Vaughn Middle Schools, with additional services provided to GEAR UP schools across Nevada.

Project activities will include the Start Thinking About College (STAC) Program, which brings seventh graders to the university for a campus tour and participation in intensive workshops aimed at early preparation for college. Sessions specifically for GEAR UP families will also be conducted at other university recruitment events to encourage increased knowledge of postsecondary options, preparation and financing.

Student development programs will be held at assigned target schools, including a STAC after school group, financial literacy presentations, College is Possible workshops, and recognition events for outstanding academic achievement.

Working closely with GEAR UP counselors and Student Parent Involvement Facilitators (SPIFs), a strong postsecondary presence will be established in each target school through on-site student advising. The GEAR UP Ambassador will provide expertise in answering college-related inquiries and a College Corner featuring resources related to college preparation, admission and financing higher education will also be implemented in each target school.

Additional project activities include training for GEAR UP counselors and SPIFs, meeting with parent organizations to develop a plan for increased parent involvement, and conducting formative and summative assessment to improve program performance.